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Security Council

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Letter dated 27 October 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I refer to the letter dated 31 August 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations concerning Iraqi violations allegedly observed in the demilitarized zone between the two countries (S/2000/847). On instructions from my Government, I should like to inform you that when the relevant Iraqi authorities summoned the Director of the Baghdad office of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) and informed him of the contents of the aforesaid Kuwaiti letter he explained that UNIKOM normally investigates the violations reported to it by Kuwait but that in the event they are not confirmed the Iraqi side is not notified.

The Iraqi authorities state in this connection that they have received no notification from UNIKOM concerning the occurrence of any violations, and this confirms that the allegations made in the letter from the representative of the Kuwaiti regime are untrue. In contrast, the Kuwaiti regime is continuing its constant violations of the demilitarized zone by permitting United States and British warplanes to use air bases in Kuwait as well as Kuwaiti territory and airspace in order to attack Iraq by way of the zone on a daily basis and to bomb Iraqi territory in flagrant violation and complete contempt of UNIKOM's mandate and in manifest breach of the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of international law. The periodic reports of the Secretary-General on UNIKOM, most recently that of 27 September 2000 (S/2000/914), make reference to these same violations.

The ongoing United States and British aggression against Iraq, which has been under way since 1991 and to which Kuwait makes a key contribution by providing funds, air bases and logistic facilities, confirms once more the legal responsibility of the Kuwaiti regime for the aggression being committed. It also requires your intervention to bring pressure to bear on the Government of Kuwait to desist from its aggression, to halt the use of its territory and airspace for the enforcement of the unlawful no-flight zones and to respect the sovereignty, security and independence of Iraq.

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I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Saeed H. **Hasan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative